

## Eugene Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee



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Date: Thursday, December 12, 2013  
Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Location: Sloat Conference Room  
Atrium Building, 99 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Eugene, OR 97401

**BPAC Members in Attendance:** Bob Passaro, Steve Bade, Judi Horstmann, Susan Stumpf, Janet Lewis; Jim Patterson, Allen Hancock, Holly McRae, Sasha Luftig, Joel Krestik, Jeff Lange, Briana Orr

**BPAC Members Absent:** David Gizara, Edem Gomez

**Staff in Attendance:** Lee Shoemaker, Reed Dunbar, Kurt Yeiter, Babe O'Sullivan, Rob Inerfeld

**Members of the Public:** Eliza Kashinsky, Josh Kashinsky, Charles Hirsch, Seth Sadofsky, Carly Kupka, Evan Tremaine, Melodi Yanik, Danielle Martin

## NOTES

### 1. Open Meeting

### 2. Public Comment

Howie Bonnett: had heard about the members that were leaving, wanted to let remaining board know that they will need to "step up" because outgoing members worked very hard, effectively.

Rob Inerfeld: wanted to thank all board members for their service. It's obvious that outgoing members cared and spent time. Everyone brought a unique component or element to the board and that made the committee stronger.

### 3. Approve November 14, 2013 Meeting Summary Notes

Action Requested: Approve Meeting Notes

Janet had a few edits; Lee made changes. Notes approved.

### 4. UO Students Report on Designing Streets for Walking and Biking

Action Requested: Information share

Babe O'Sullivan (Sustainability Liaison for COE): tonight, one of six OLIS teams will present on "Designing Streets for Alternative Transportation". Carly Kupka, Dani Martin, Evan Tremaine, Melodi Yanik presented from the UO

- Assessed several streets. Recommendations focused on W 11<sup>th</sup> and Willamette using Multimodal Network System.

- Studied a simple model (MMLOS) and felt it wasn't up to date with current practice to focus on user experience
  - Surveyed 40 people about their user experience (intercept surveys)
  - Concluded that infrastructure separating users was the most important/effective infrastructure element
- User Profiles – created to account for all user types
- Walkability was assessed creating numerical values based on traits (stress level)
- Bikeability was assessed based on safety of the user.
- Streets: Coburg, River, 11<sup>th</sup>, and Willamette. Due to time constraints focused on 11<sup>th</sup> and Willamette
- 11<sup>th</sup>: segmented, feel it needs better connectivity. Walkability was pleasant but bikeability was stressful (bike lane between two travel lanes); lack of bike lane on west end hurt bikeability
- Willamette: divided into 7 segments – analysis varied based on which segment studied. Buffered bike lane segment rated highest (18<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>), south of 24<sup>th</sup> rated most stressful. Walkability also suffers south of 24<sup>th</sup> because there is no separation between travel modes.
- 11<sup>th</sup>: Lincoln to Chambers – recommend left-side bike lane (buffered) by removing parking on that side. 11<sup>th</sup> at Mill – change the bike lane from right side to left side using bike box.
- Willamette: 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> – recommend removal of TWLTL and install bike lane on both sides.
- Conclusion – barriers and separation create a sense of security and promotes use and appreciation. Study needs further exploration. Should take a deeper look using data (this report solely based on user experience).
- Questions?
  - Any surprises when surveying? Yes, on W 11<sup>th</sup>, all residents knew someone who had their car hit. There were also a lot of people who knew someone who got hit on Willamette.
  - Walk Score/ Bike Score uses algorithms while your rating scale is based on physical characteristics. How did you decide what to use? We wanted to figure out a way to make the facilities more attractive to a greater variety of users; add comfort.
  - Love idea of user profiles. Was a suggestion from advisors – want to make them illustrative of “everyone”.

## 5. Public Meetings Report

- Strategic Plan Open House
  - Had 20-25 people. Organizing strategies based on 5 Es. Will have second open house in January. Plan will result in a priority list for BPAC to work on (and form subcommittees).
- Skateboard-Bike Law Open House

- Skateboarding in the street has been getting the most attention and opinions are very mixed. There is a perception that many skateboarders ride dangerously they also lack brakes so there are some concerns about how they would operate with traffic.
  - Janet attended meeting and said that some of her perceptions were changed about skateboarders who attended the meeting. Left feeling very positive.
  - Bri wondered what the next step was. Lee will report to PW Management Team and discuss alternatives. Need to decide if the proposals are ready to take to Council.
  - Alan: completion of skateboard park presents challenges and opportunities for presenting this legislation.
- eBikes: opposition is concerned that any kind of motor in the Whilamut Natural Area is not welcome. There is some confusion about what an eBike is. Some people concerned about speed (going too fast on path).
  - Parks department will weigh in
- Downtown sidewalk no riding zone: issue is that skateboard and bike zones are different. EPD wants a compact zone so it's easier to enforce. Most people want safer streets, and if they are constructed so that they feel then safer more people will ride on streets. Want to keep faster moving skateboards and cyclists off the sidewalk.
- Campus to Downtown Bicycle Connections Open House
  - Had 105 people sign-in and more came and left. Room was at capacity.
  - Purpose was to examine what works and what doesn't work about existing connections (11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>)
  - 11<sup>th</sup>: not real comfortable (cars and buses); not family friendly, won't attract new users.
  - 12<sup>th</sup>: a lot of stop signs; want people to slow down on cross streets. Connection to campus does not exist – you have to exit 12<sup>th</sup> because of hospital. It's also very dark.
  - 13<sup>th</sup>: a lot of traffic on this street; don't like weave lanes (by Willamette); there is a strong desire to travel westbound into downtown. This street carries emergency service vehicles so that needs to be considered. Strong interest from businesses to maintain on-street parking.
  - Next step is to come back to public in “early 2014” with alternatives.
  - Comments:
    - Lots of interest in safety education and enforcement.
    - Kudos to Rob as facilitator. Liked that people raised hands when they agreed. Was a respectful meeting.
    - It's critical to be impartial. Thought this was a big part of why the meeting was successful.

- Realized that a lot of problems were result of one-way streets
- 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue Paving (upcoming)
  - Meeting is Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6pm

## 6. Updates to 2014 Improvement Projects

- 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Garfield to Washington
  - Buffered bike lanes will be proposed
  - Is 13<sup>th</sup> worth a political battle if parking is removed?
    - Provides fastest route
    - It's better lit than adjacent options
    - Signalized intersections are predictable
    - Lots of students here
    - Eventual tie to whatever happens on 13<sup>th</sup> from campus to downtown
  - What happens on east? Probably a shared lane.
    - Comments: it might be worse to end bike lane at Jefferson because that's where you need protection the most.
- Monroe Street, Blair to 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Comments
    - Important connection to keep; Monroe should still be the bike route, need to make it feel a little better if possible.
    - RRFB at 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue.
    - Diversion is very important and if we want to make bike boulevards we need to look at how to construct barriers to auto entry.
    - Should be sensitive to business needs and what keeps that neighborhood unique (mix of uses)
- Roosevelt, Danebo to Terry
  - Sidewalk infill
  - Traffic circle remains
  - Transition on Danebo – can you do a shared use path here?
    - Wide sidewalk here on north side.
- West EmX, Charnelton
  - Still need bike lane?
    - Yes, proves that bikes belong on that street. Many people ride on the line and feel that drivers understand why I'm there.
    - Buses will be operating next to you, does that still feel comfortable? Maybe.
    - Won't use Charnelton if shared lane; keep bike lane.

## 7. BPAC Recruitment Update (5 min)

### Action Requested: Information share

Staff met to select 6 new members to bring the total back up to 15 (max committee size). Informed selected candidates today. Tried to focus on geographic distribution, fit with the committee, and interest focus.

Orientation – will be held for new members prior to next meeting, any existing member can attend if desired.

## **8. Acknowledge Outgoing BPAC Members**

### Action Requested: Reflection on Tenure and Advice to 2014 BPAC

- Holly McRae: member for four years started to feel nostalgic about her tenure. Daughter asked her why she applied: one was that daughter started school and walking there was difficult, the second reason was biking on 29<sup>th</sup> and found a man in the sidewalk who had been struck by traffic and no one noticed he was lying there. Thought this was unacceptable and conditions needed to be better. At the time did not consider herself an advocate, think it's important to have people on the committee who don't self-identify as walkers or bikers. Encourage the city to be innovative. Push Tom on ideas, there are a lot of cities doing great things that we can learn from. Challenge the assumption that traffic will increase in perpetuity. Lighting is continually an issue and is missed; but this determines routes at night (different than day routes). Learned a lot. Thanks.
- Jeff Lange: really enjoyed serving and amazed at the level of knowledge and skill. Passion around pedestrians and sidewalks, even though cycle every day, there are a lot of gaps for people who want to walk, especially for people with mobility limitations. Thank you.
- Briana Orr: learned a lot from people with different transportation perspectives (know mostly cyclists). Want to thank city staff – trying to learn more about expenditure of city dollars and how decisions get made. Thanks for the perspective. Plan to attend future meetings.
- Judi Horstmann: joined BPAC because of involvement of traffic planning in her neighborhood, wanted to know more, and did learn a lot. Interesting to follow process from community concern or idea to actual physical improvement. Committee has benefitted from those who came before. Relationship between committee and staff is better now than in past and want to thank staff for willingness to work with community to help them understand. Want to recognize Holly and David who helped Judi tremendously: Holly helped with letter writing and perceptive comments and appreciate David's passionate advocacy and helped her understand different points of view. He continues to attend city council meetings and outreach events important to furthering active transportation. Not going to give recommendations for what to focus on, because you all are passionate and knowledgeable, just remember to listen to everyone so that you can understand other points of view. Thank you to staff for being innovative and responsive to community desires (30<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, etc.). Enjoyed working with committee and will miss being on BPAC but look forward to future.
- Lee Shoemaker (staff): Lindsay couldn't make it but wanted to thank everyone for your dedication and commitment. Lee has

enjoyed getting to know committee members and it really helps us to understand the people we serve. Feel free to continue to attend our meetings. Lee presented a certificate of appreciation and small gift.

- Reed Dunbar (staff): thank you for serving. Part of our decision on who to select as new members was based on how we replace Holly, and David, and Bri, and Jeff, and Judi. It will be a hard task as you all contributed so much. Thanks. We look forward to continuing to see you at public meetings.
- Sasha – thank you all. Holly and Judi, your leadership has been exemplary and we'll miss you.

## **9. Information Share**

### Action Requested: BPAC and staff Information share

- Jim: snow event has really shown that we don't handle snow well. It's the law that property owners have to clear their sidewalks and conditions are dangerous right now. Also, Adventure Cycling Assoc. just wrote an article about Oregon and ODOT and what they're doing for cyclists.
- Holly: this Saturday is the unveiling of mural at Arriving by Bike for Children's Trust.
- Sasha: BPAC got a thank you letter for supporting the ConnectOregonV grant.
- Jeff: will be working on SEHS cycling club. Involved with one of the shops in town to encourage youth to ride bikes (mountain biking) and there aren't a lot of places to do that in town. Want to get something going (maybe Bloomberg Park).
- Bob: thanks to outgoing members; learned a lot. Thank you, Judi, meetings have been very prompt. In January, maybe do a north Eugene bike tour?
- Susan: thank you outgoing members, letters have been important and leadership has been amazing. Holiday Swarm is this Saturday on Willamette.
- Joel: second everyone's thank you. Appreciate work on committees.
- Allen: thank you to all. Also, the Alliance for Biking and Walking has trainings focused on "winning campaigns" for bicycle advocacy. Alan wants to attend if anyone else is interested.
- Janet: thank Judi and all outgoing members.

## **10. Adjourn**